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The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy

United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy: activities of the United Nations system in implementing the Strategy

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

The present addendum contains information from the United States of America as its contribution to the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

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Annex

Inputs from Member States, regional and subregional organizations and other relevant organizations on the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy

A. Member States

United States of America

1. The United States has been and remains a staunch supporter of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and is committed to implementing and supporting the efforts of other States and relevant multilateral organizations to implement each of its four pillars.

2. At the national level, the 2011 United States National Counter-Terrorism Strategy formalized the approach that the United States has been pursuing and adapting for the past two and a half years, an approach that is consistent with the broad-based one contained in the United Nations Strategy. The 2011 United States Strategy is only one part of the larger National Security Strategy of the United States, which was released in the spring of 2010 and recognizes that it is counterproductive to view foreign and security policy through a counter-terrorism prism alone. Thus, United States counter-terrorism policies are a vital part of — and are designed to reinforce — broader national security interests. The 2011 United States Strategy recognizes that counter-terrorism efforts benefit from — and at times depend on — broader foreign policy efforts, whether to promote the peaceful resolution of political disputes and grievances, economic growth, development, good governance or human rights and the rule of law.

3. Under the new strategy, the United States continues to adopt a "whole of government" approach to addressing the challenges posed by terrorism and violent extremism and strengthen the tools that may, depending on the circumstances, be appropriate to address them, be they diplomatic, law enforcement, development, intelligence or military. However, rather than pursuing a "one size fits all" approach, the United States approach recognizes that different threats in different places demand different tools.

4. The United States Strategy also highlights the need to confront Al-Qaida's violent ideology and its resonance by identifying and responding to specific, localized conditions and factors that Al-Qaida exploits as drivers to recruitment, radicalization and mobilization to violence.

5. It recognizes that the United States and its partners have made great strides in tactical counter-terrorism over the past decade — taking individual terrorists off the street, disrupting cells and thwarting conspiracies. At the strategic level, however, the 2011 United States Strategy recognizes that the global community must do a better job of diminishing the drivers of violent extremism and demonstrably reduce the effectiveness of terrorist propaganda, thus leading to fewer recruits.

6. United States work to counter violent extremism focuses on three main lines of effort: delegitimizing the violent extremist narrative in order to diminish its "pull"; developing positive alternatives for youth vulnerable to radicalization to diminish

the "push" effect of grievances and unmet expectations; and building partner capacity to carry out these activities.

7. The 2011 United States Strategy highlights our efforts to support communities within the United States as they develop increased resilience and strategies to deal with the threat of Al-Qaida-inspired radicalization efforts. It reaffirms the commitment of the United States to abide by and to uphold core values, including respect for human rights and the rule of law, and recognizes that counter-terrorism efforts can best succeed when they place respect for human rights and the rule of law at the front and centre.

8. The 2011 United States Strategy is guided by the need to broaden and deepen partnerships with institutions and countries around the world, as the United States recognizes that no one nation alone can bring about the demise of Al-Qaida and its affiliates and adherents. Rather, we must join with key partners and allies to share the burdens of common security. The United States Strategy thus places a premium on building the institutional and other capacities of weak and vulnerable States so that they do not serve as breeding grounds for terrorism, recruitment and instability and so that Governments can provide security, education and jobs for their citizens.

9. It emphasizes the need to strengthen existing and build new partnerships with Governments, multilateral organizations, the private sector and civil society. As the events over the past year in different parts of the world have shown, these partnerships are becoming ever more critical as the threat becomes more diffuse.

10. Over the past decade, significant progress has been made in developing and strengthening the international architecture to confront twenty-first century terrorism. This includes the creation of numerous counter-terrorism bodies within the United Nations and regional organizations. The 2011 United States Strategy recognizes the multiple benefits from working through these bodies: leveraging their expertise and resources, deepening the engagement of our partners and enhancing the legitimacy of our efforts.

11. Consistent with this strategy, our policy and programming support for the different United Nations counter-terrorism actors has grown over the past two years. Sustained and strategic engagement at the United Nations on counter-terrorism issues remains a priority for the United States. The United States also strongly supports the creation of a United Nations counter-terrorism coordinator, who will be able to enhance the strategic engagement of the United Nations on counter-terrorism issues.

12. Since the most recent review by the General Assembly of the United Nations Strategy, in September 2010, the United States has engaged with a wide range of United Nations actors, including the three related committees of the Security Council: the Counter-Terrorism Committee; the Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011) concerning Al-Qaida and associated individuals and entities; and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004).

Counter-Terrorism Committee

13. The United States played a leading role in drafting and supporting Security Council resolution 1963 (2010), by which the Security Council renewed the mandate of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate for three years and broadened it by placing more emphasis on prevention and human rights. In

2010, the Executive Directorate conducted several visits to countries in the Horn of Africa, the Sahel, South Asia and Europe to assess the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001). The United States supported the Executive Directorate by co-funding and participating in a workshop in New York in December 2010, which brought together senior prosecutors from across the globe with experience in handling high-profile terrorism cases. The United States also participated in a regional workshop on national coordination and regional cooperation, held in Sarajevo in October 2010, and one in Tashkent in December 2010, on preventing terrorism and countering violent extremism. The United States also financed an East African subregional workshop in Nairobi in November to build capacity for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1624 (2005), which calls upon Member States to take appropriate steps to prohibit and prevent incitement to commit acts of terrorism.

Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

14. The United States continued to urge the full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) by the international community and hosted a successful domestic visit by the Committee in September 2011. The visit, the first comprehensive country visit conducted by the Committee, provided a snapshot of United States actions to implement the resolution across a range of agencies and emphasized the "whole of government" approach to implementing the resolution. The United States also contributed $3 million to the United Nations Trust Fund for Global and Regional Disarmament Activities in order to support the resolution's implementation.

Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force

15. The United States continued to fund a series of workshops aimed at raising awareness of the Strategy in key regions, including regional workshops that were held in Bali, Indonesia, in November 2010, Windhoek in March 2011 and Addis Ababa in July 2011. The United States also participated in a series of expert-level workshops organized by the Task Force and the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia to reaffirm its strong commitment to supporting the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia, which resulted in the adoption of a joint action plan.

United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

16. In June 2010, the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force welcomed the opening of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute Centre on Policies to Counter the Appeal of Terrorism, which analyses different policies and programmes on the detection and prevention of pathways into terrorism, early intervention efforts against terrorist recruitment and rehabilitation initiatives. With United States support, the Institute is bringing together national practitioners from key countries to share experiences and identify best practices in the rehabilitation of terrorists. In May 2011, the Institute and the International Centre for Counter-Terrorism — The Hague launched an initiative on prison disengagement and rehabilitation. The initiative, sponsored in part by the United States, aimed to provide a forum where policymakers, practitioners and experts could compare experiences and best practices in this critical area.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Terrorism Prevention Branch

17. The Terrorism Prevention Branch and its Global Programme against Money-Laundering continued to provide assistance to countries in the legal and related aspects of counter-terrorism. In 2010, the United States supported the Branch through its pledge of $1.25 million, including funding to train national prosecutors and judges in Yemen on counter-terrorism best practices. In 2011, the United States supported the Branch by funding programmes to provide counter-terrorism training to national prosecutors and judges in different regions.

International Atomic Energy Agency

18. The International Atomic Energy Agency continued to implement its Nuclear Security Plan (2010-2013) for countering the threat of terrorism involving nuclear and other radioactive material. The United States is actively involved in the Agency's efforts to enhance security for vulnerable nuclear and other radioactive materials and associated facilities and to reduce the risk that such materials could be used by terrorists.